

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 12-25 and 27-28 remain pending in the present application, including independent claims 12 and 25. Claims 12 and 25 are both directed to a fabric material in which a second pick yarn has been napped and subsequently sheared from the surface of a woven fabric. In the Office Action, all of the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 or under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Canadian Patent No. 961,250 to Prohaska. As now amended, however, it is believed that claims 12 and 25 patentably define over the cited reference.

For instance, claim 12 is directed to a woven fabric having a warp yarn and only two pick yarns comprising a first pick yarn and a second pick yarn. The first pick yarn is woven tightly with the warp yarn to provide integrity to the woven fabric, while the second pick yarn is woven more loosely into the fabric.

Prohaska is directed to the formation of pile fabrics that are formed on a conventional flat bed loom. As opposed to the fabric material defined in claim 12, the fabrics disclosed in Prohaska contain greater than two wefts. For instance, as shown in Figure 1, the pile fabric is formed with wefts P1 and P2 in a one and one weave with the warp ends. The fabric further contains wefts P3 and P4 in a one and seven weave. Nowhere does Prohaska disclose or suggest the formation of a fabric that has a warp yarn in combination with only two pick yarns. In fact, on page 4, Prohaska states that "if a material such as a double pocket fabric with stitcherpick and stuffer on the back or inside the pocket only having one warp and two fillings was napped, the face would be so weakened that again the material would fall apart". As such, it is believed that claim 12 patentably defines over Prohaska.

The Examiner's attention is directed to claim 25 which also defines a fabric material. Claim 25 specifically requires the fabric material to comprise a jacquard fabric in which the second pick yarn comprises a spun yarn. Claim 25 has been amended to further require that the warp yarn be present in the fabric in an amount from about 88 warp yarns per inch to about 250 warp yarns per inch and that the first pick yarn is present in the fabric in an amount from about 34 yarns per inch to about 38 yarns per

inch. Nowhere does Prohaska disclose or suggest the particular combination of elements as now required in claim 25. As such, it is believed that claim 25 also patentably defines over Prohaska.

In the Office Action, claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for various informalities. In response, claim 14 has been amended to properly depend from claim 12.

In summary, it is believed that the presently pending claims as currently amended are in complete condition for allowance. Should any issues remain after consideration of this amendment, however, then Examiner Muromoto is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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